

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A support surface that utilizes repulsive forces of opposing magnetic fields is described. In preferred embodiments, the support apparatus includes first and second frame members having first and second pluralities of magnets disposed thereon. The pluralities of magnets are oriented such that the first plurality of magnets produces a magnetic field having an orientation that opposes the magnetic fields of the magnets of the second plurality. The first and second frame members interact such that they maintain a substantially static lateral position relative to each other despite the repulsive forces of the opposing magnetic fields. A support member, such as a cushion member, is disposed adjacent one of the frame members, and can be connected thereto. A covering can surround the entire assembly. In particularly preferred embodiments, the frame members have dimensions similar to those of conventional mattresses, and the cover confers the appearance of a conventional mattress onto the support apparatus.